7/29/83 A3275-2 A

TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 28, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 23 totaled an estimated 16.4 billion ton-miles, 8.6 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 29 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 447.4 billion ton-miles, 2.2 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 23 totaled 368,120 cars, 4.6 percent over 1982, and 2.2 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 0.7 percent in the East, 1.8 percent in the South and 8.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 14 of the 21 commodity groups were up, led by metallic ores, which increased by 56.7 percent. Other significant gains included: coke, 31.4 percent; lumber and wood products, 17.1 percent; non-metallic minerals, 16.6 percent; and crushed stone, gravel and sand, 16.7 percent. Twelve of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 16 totaled 44,158 cars, up 23.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 76,053 trailers and/or containers, 21.0 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 28 weeks of the year was 1,205,991 cars, 20.0 percent higher than last year, and 2,073,137 trailers and/or containers, up 16.3 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/23/83:

	Loadings in Week ended July 23, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	29,782	I	2,177	7.9	D	317	1.1
Other farm products	4,232	I	482	12.9	D	373	8.1
Metallic ores	20,893	I	7,564	56.7	D	181	0.9
Coal	98,289	D	7,892	7.4	I	5,270	5.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,424	I	1,633	16.7	I	71	0.6
Nonmetallic minerals	12,365	I	1,759	16.6	I	891	7.8
Grain mill products	11,331	I	104	0.9	I	94	0.8
Food and kindred products	11,101	D	1,560	12.3	D	56	0.5
Primary forest products	15,024	I	15	0.1	D	5	0.0
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,129	I	1,042	17.1	I	97	1.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,825	D	611	4.0	I	592	4.2
Chemicals and allied products	20,328	I	618	3.1	D	809	3.8
Petroleum products	4,388	D	311	6.6	D	275	5.9
Stone, clay and glass products	11,231	I	1,101	10.9	D	345	3.0
Coke	5,523	I	1,320	31.4	D	243	4.2
Metals and products	7,811	D	182	2.3	I	26	0.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,756	I	586	4.1	I	263	1.8
Waste and scrap materials	8,282	I	1,205	17.0	I	227	2.8
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,728	D	21	0.3	I	131	1.7
All other carloads	51,463	I	8,460	19.7	I	3,024	6.2
LCL traffic	215	D	1,245	85.3	I	2	0.9
Total Cars Loaded	368,120	I	16,244	4.6	I	8,084	2.2
Corresponding week of 1982	351,876						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (29 weeks)	10,167,522	10,743,718	D 5.4
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
28 weeks ended July 16	431.0	442.4	D 2.6
Week ended July 23	16.4	15.1	I 8.6
29 weeks cumulative	447.4	457.5	D 2.2

AARt-072883